

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
16 December 2004 (16.12.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/109533 A1

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **G06F 15/16**,
15/173

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/US2003/017711

(22) International Filing Date: 5 June 2003 (05.06.2003)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(71) Applicant and

(72) Inventor: **BLOCK, Allan, J.** [US/US]; 235 14th Street,
Toledo, OH 43624 (US).

(74) Agent: **CLEMENS, William, J.**; McMillan, Sobanski &
Todd, LLC, 4th Floor, One Maritime Plaza, 720 Water
Street, Toledo, OH 43604-1853 (US).

(81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU,
AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU,

CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH,
GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC,
LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW,
MX, MZ, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE,
SG, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ,
VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

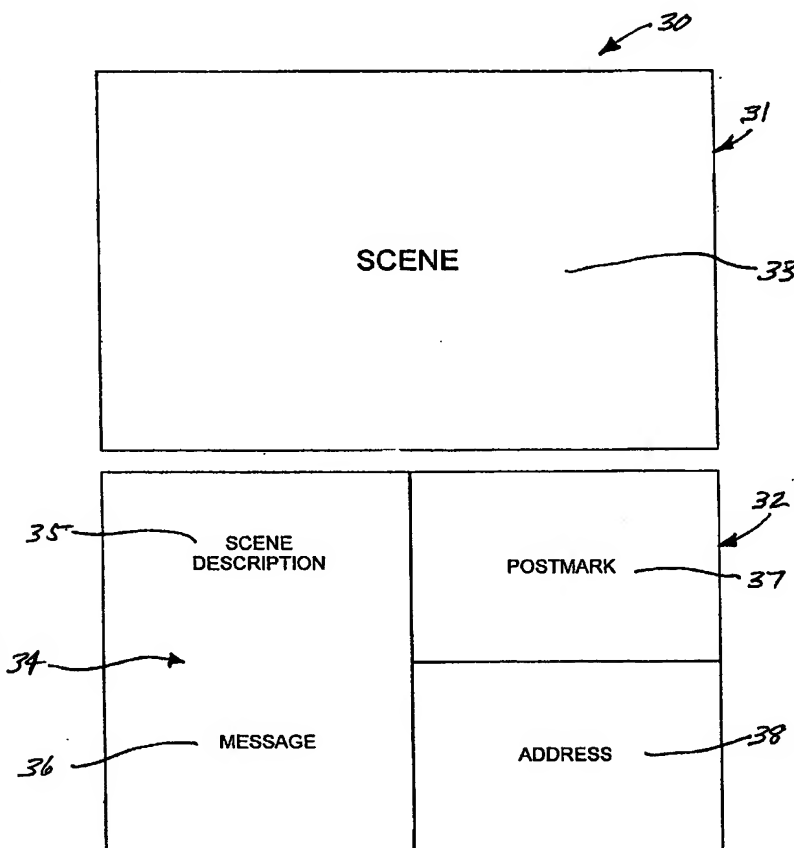
(84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (GH, GM,
KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW),
Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM),
European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE,
ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO,
SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM,
GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

— with international search report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guid-
ance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the begin-
ning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ELECTRONIC POSTCARD COMMUNICATION



(57) Abstract: A method and an apparatus for communicating with electronic postcards include a server for processing electronic postcards. Input sites remote from the server are selected based upon exposure to significant numbers of business travelers and tourists and provided with input devices. A verified communication link is established between the input devices and the server. A sender generated postcard request received at one of the input devices including an addressee e-mail address (38), a sender message (36) and a scene selection (33) transmits an electronic postcard (30) to the addressee.

WO 2004/109533 A1